

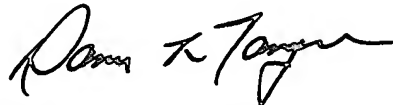
REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment applicant has amended the specification by adding an Abstract of the Disclosure. The added abstract is supported by the abstract of the International Application to which the present national application claims priority. A copy of the abstract is also attached hereto on a separate sheet of paper. Furthermore, claims 1-24 have been cancelled and new claims 25-47 have been added. New claims 25-47 correspond to claims 1-24 but have been drafted to remove multiple dependencies and otherwise place the claims in a more conventional format for prosecution in the United States. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the specification and the claims do not introduce new matter, and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, claims 25-47 are presented for the Examiner's consideration on the merits.

DATED this 13 day of October 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to an apparatus for rigidly mounting a load, such as a utility tray or accommodation unit, to a vehicle. The apparatus also enables demounting of the load from the vehicle such that the vehicle is free for use without the encumbrance of the load or to enable the loads to be interchanged. Particularly, a drive mechanism is included in the apparatus to selectively draw the load and vehicle together for mounting or move them away from each other for demounting.